(b) whether Government have announced any special package for the revival of Central Undertakings; and

(c) the decisions taken about M/s J. K. Synthetics of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) M/s J. K. Synthetics, Kota (Rajasthan) is a private company. Hence, it is not for Government to revive the company. It was declared as a sick company by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction on 2.4.1998. The Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction *vide* its order dated January 7,2005 has sanctioned a revival scheme for M/s J. K. Synthetics, Kota.

Interest rate on GPF and PPF

†1423. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal of giving 9.5 per cent interest rate to Government and non-government employees on their G.P.F. and P.P.F. as is being given on Employees' Provident Fund;

(b) if so, by when this issue would be considered; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration of Government to revise the rate of interest on GPF which has been retained at 8 per cent for 2005-2006 at par with that of 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 or the rate of interest on PPF which has been pegged at 8 per cent since 2003-2004. In the case of Employees' Provident Fund, the Central Board of Trustees of Employees' Provident Fund has not made any recommendation in respect of interest rate on EPF accumulations for the year 2005-2006.

The adiministered rates of interest, including those on GPF, PPF and EPF, are fixed taking into account the entire gamut of issues, including the differences in the schemes and deployment of funds collected thereunder.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.